

15. BREEDING OF THE GREEN PIT VIPER (*TRIMERESURUS GRAMINEUS*)

As there appears to be very little information regarding the breeding of this Pit Viper it might be of interest to record that a few days back we acquired a live specimen from a snake charmer said to have been obtained at Matheran. This gave birth to 7 live young and also expelled one infertile egg on 9th June, 1951.

The mother takes a mouse 3 or 4 times a week, but there is no evidence to show that the young have eaten anything so far. The mother with all her youngsters remain throughout on the plant that is provided in the cage, and she too does not show any inclination to attack her prey for feeding unless removed by force from the plant.

VICTORIA GARDENS,
BOMBAY,
June 22, 1951.

J. N. BAROOA
Assistant Superintendent (Zoological).

[In the *Journal*, Vol. xxi, p. 1339, Mr. N. B. Kinnear records 15 young born in our Museum on 30th June.—EDS.]

16. SURFACE-LOCOMOTION OF CERTAIN FROGS (*RANA*), AND THE OCCURRENCE OF *R. TAIPEHENSIS* VAN DEN-BURGH IN INDIA.

This note is an amendment and amplification of my comments on surface-locomotion in certain species of *Rana*, particularly *R. erythraea* Schleg., which appeared in 1947 in this journal, (Vol. 47, pp. 173-174). When publishing the record of this uncommon habit as having been observed in a colony of *R. erythraea* at Mymensingh, Bengal in July, 1944, I had followed Boulenger in using the name *erythraea*. Boulenger (vide his remarks in *Records of the Indian Museum*, Vol. xx 1920,) did not accept *taipehensis* as a species distinct from *erythraea*. However, having subsequently discussed these frogs with Dr. Malcolm Smith (to whom I submitted specimens from Mymensingh for examination), I am convinced that there is ample justification for accepting the smaller *R. taipehensis* as distinct—and to which species, as pointed out by Dr. Malcolm Smith, my specimens from Mymensingh will have to be referred.

During the course of studying the specimens of *R. taipehensis* and *R. erythraea* in the British Museum (Natural History), I happened to notice some remarks by Major S. S. Flower on the label attached to a specimen of *R. erythraea* which he had collected at Singapore in 1896. Consequently, I referred to Major Flower's paper in the *P.Z.S.*, 1896, pp. 856-914, wherein he remarks of the latter species:—'This is a most active, agile frog, both on land and in the water; it can hop over the surface of a pond, much as *Rana cyanophlictis* does in India, and also jump right out of the water.'

Whereas I am undoubtedly at fault for not being aware of Major Flower's record when my note was published in this journal in 1947, it is extremely interesting to know that both *R. erythraea* and *R.*